

Message Text

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17

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 IO-10 OMB-01 SAM-01 SAJ-01 AID-05 AF-06

SCCT-01 ACDA-10 /111 W

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R 051438Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3359

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USCINCEUR

USMISSION USUN

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 1638

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SY, GR

SUBJ: PAPANDREOU SUPPORTS ARABS IN INTERVIEW BY SYRIAN PRESS

1. MAY 5 AL-BAATH CARRIED INTERVIEW WITH GREEK LEADER ANDREAS PAPANDREOU AT CONCLUSION HIS VISIT TO SYRIA, IN WHICH HE CHARGED THAT U.S. WAS USING ISRAEL AS "TOOL OF AGGRESSION" TO CONTROL OIL SOURCES. "IMPERIALISM", HE SAID, WAS CONCENTRATING ON DIVIDING ARAB NATION "EXACTLY AS IT HAD WORKED TO DIVIDE CYPRUS." HE ADDED THAT HE SHARED OPINION OF THOSE WHO SAID U.S. WAS TRYING TO CREATE A NEW ISRAEL IN CYPRUS.

2. ASKED HOW HE VISUALIZED JUST SETTLEMENT OF MIDDLE EAST AND CYPRUS DISPUTES, PAPANDREOU RESPONDED:
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"REGARDING PALESTINE, WE SUPPORT ESTABLISHMENT OF

NON-RELIGIOUS AND NON-SECTARIAN STATE IN PLACE OF ISRAEL, WHICH WILL RESTORE ALL LEGITIMATE NATIONAL RIGHTS OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE. IN CYPRUS, WE REJECT PRINCIPLE OF PARTITION AND ARE DOING ALL POSSIBLE TO REUNIFY ISLAND. I WAS IN GOVERNMENT IN 1964 WHEN WE DISCUSSED CYPRUS QUESTION. AT THAT TIME I EXPOSED AMERICAN DESIGNS ON ISLAND AIMING AT CONVERTING IT INTO BASE TO CONTROL SUEZ CANAL, TO ESTABLISH ESPIONAGE STATIONS, AND TO SUPPORT ISRAEL'S OPERATIONS IN MIDDLE EAST. NATURALLY THESE COULD NOT TAKE PLACE IF CYPRUS REMAINED INDEPENDENT. THUS, WASHINGTON HAS ADOPTED PRINCIPLE OF PARTITION. INDEED, U.S. PRESENT POLICY IS SIMPLY ATTEMPT TO GAIN TIME AND IMPOSE STATUS QUO ON CYPRUS AND MIDDLE EAST. THEREFORE, ALL PEACE-LOVING NATIONS AND PROGRESSIVE FORCES SHOULD JOIN TOGETHER TO FOIL THESE AGGRESSIVE PLANS AND RESTORE LEGITIMATE RIGHT TO TRUE OWNERS."

MURPHY

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